

Message Text

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50

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 SS-15

USIA-06 PRS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 SP-02 IO-10 CIEP-01 FRB-01 EB-07 OMB-01 /073 W

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P R 301331Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0385

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PGOV GV

SUBJECT: ELECTION OF PRESIDENT TOURE AND PDG SLATE FOR PARLIAMENT

REF: CONAKRY 1920

1. ON DEC 27 GUINEAN PEOPLE WENT THROUGH "ELECTION" CEREMONY FOR PRESIDENT AND 150-MAN ASSEMBLY THROUGHOUT GUINEA AND IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES WHERE THERE IS A GOV'T- ACKNOWLEDGED PRESENCE. PRESIDENT AHMED SEKOU TOURE REELECTED FOR NEW SEVEN-YEAR TERM BEGINNING JANUARY 1975. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (NAME CHANGED FROM NATIONAL ASSEMBLY) WILL TAKE OFFICE AT SAME TIME FOR CONCURRENT TERM. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT APPROPRIATE MESSAGE OF CONGRULATIONS BE SENT FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO PRESIDENT TOURE.

2. THE EMPHASIS BY THE PARTY AND GOV'T IN THIS ELECTION WAS TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION BY ALL GUINEANS, AND IT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT 99.9 PERCENT OF THE COUNTRY VOTED. "RETURNS" FROM ALL PROVINCES AND FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN READ OVER THE RADIO OR POSTED IN CONAKRY.

3. THERE WAS NO CHOICE FOR THE VOTERS (EXCEPT, OF COURSE,
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TO STAY AWAY FROM POLLS); NOT EVEN "YES" OR "NO" OR A GREEN

AND RED BALLOT AS HAVE BEEN USED IN OTHER COUNTRIES. VOTING CONSISTED OF EACH CITIZEN GOING TO DESIGNATED POLLING PLACE, RECEIVING ONE BALLOT WITH PRESIDENT TOURE'S NAME PRINTED ON IT AND ANOTHER WITH THE LIST OF 150 ASSEMBLY "CANDIDATES," WHICH THE VOTER PLACED IN AN ENVELOPE AND DEPOSITED IN A VOTING URN. REPORTEDLY IN SOME COMMUNES THE ENVELOPE WAS ALREADY STUFFED WHEN DELIVERED TO THE VOTER. WHEN THIS SYMBOLIC ACT OF SUPPORT FOR THE REGIME WAS COMPLETED, THE "VOTER'S" NAME WAS ADDED TO THE COMMUNE LIST AND HE WAS GIVEN A CARD INDICATING THAT HE HAD VOTED.

4. FOR THE PAST FOUR DAYS, THE GUINEAN RADIO HAS CARRIED LITTLE OTHER THAN COMMENTS ON THIS "ELECTION," AND ITS IMPORTANCE AS DEFINING A NEW TRIUMPH FOR SEKOU TOURE'S REGIME. THERE WERE VARIOUS RADIO EDITORIALS POINTING OUT THAT GUINEA REJECTS THE "DIVISIVE PLURALISM OF BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY." ON DEC 29 A MASS MEETING OF MOST OF CONAKRY'S ADULT POPULATION WAS HELD AT WHICH THE ELECTION RESULTS WERE ANNOUNCED AND PRESIDENT TOURE GAVE AN EMOTIONAL SPEECH ON THE STATUS OF THE GUINEAN REVOLUTION.
TODMAN

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Message Attributes

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